CSSS Becomes Permanent continued from page 1

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Visitng Scholars

John A. Logan ~ University of Wisconsin Madison

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Seed Grant Awards for 2002-2003 went to three outstanding proposals, which included faculty from Economics and Sociology.

Lowell Hargens, Sociology
Mark Handcock, Statistics/Sociology

This study will use an innovative method proposed by Hoff, Raftery, and Handcock to examine how workers’ race, ethnicity, and Hispanicity shape their distribution across detailed occupations. We will use the 1990 Public Use Micro Sample data from the U.S. Census for all employed workers, and for workers in four metropolitan areas. We will adapt the latent space approach proposed by Hoff et al. to these data, thereby obtaining a spatial representation of the structure of occupational segregation in the U.S. as well as assessments of the statistical reliability of groups’ positions in the derived space.

“Exploring Regional Difference in the Incentives and Performance of Russian Regional Government” ($16,761)
Judith Thornton, Economics
Avery Ke, Economics

In this study, we investigate the determinants of tax effort in Russia’s regions, applying spatial autoregression to account for regional heterogeneity and adding geographical and GIS data to a traditional economics database. This project explores the incentive effects of fiscal federalist relations in Russia, asking to what extent the structure of Russian federal relations offers incentives to regional government officials for the adoption of policies supporting growth and investment. The project applies recent developments in applied statistics to a principal-agent model of taxation in a transitional economy. This initial study will serve as the base for a larger study of regional differences in central-regional interaction, applying the methodologies of spatial autoregression and using GIS data, for which we hope to seek external funding.

For complete abstracts see www.csss.washington.edu/SeedGrants/2002Awards.shtml

Computational Modeling in Social Sciences Conference

May 6–10, 2003
University of Washington
See www.csss.washington.edu for details

Seminar Series Spring 2003

Apr 2 Jim Hughes, Department of Biostatistics
“Approaches to Modeling the Duration and Intensity of Sexual Partnerships”

Apr 9 Elaina Rose, Department of Economics
“Women, Education, and Marriage in the United States”

Apr 16 Lara Wolfson, World Health Organization
“The Census and the Supreme Court: Sampling and Imputation”

Apr 23 Jacob Wegelin/Thomas Richardson/Alice Taff, Departments of Statistics, and Epidemiology and Preventative Medicine, UC Davis
“Quantitative Analysis of Intonation in an Endangered Language”

Apr 30 Mike Ward, Department of Political Science and Peter Hoff, Department of Statistics
“Political Interactions in Central Asia: A Latent Space Analysis”

May 7 Peter Smith, Department of Social Statistics, Southampton
“Association Models for a Multivariate Multinomial Response”

May 14 John Miyamoto, Department of Psychology
“Axiomatic Foundations for Person-Adaptedness”

May 21 Sherpad Tuljapurkar – Stanford Biological Sciences
“Aggregate Demographic Uncertainty and Policy Risk”

May 28 Eric Zivot, Department of Economics
“Improved Inference for the Partially Identified Instrumental Variables Regression Model”

Jun 4 Kevin Quinn, Michael Hechter, Eric Wibbels, Departments of Political Science and Sociology
“Assessing the Effects of Measurement Error in Cross-National Social Research”

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CSSSSNews

University of Washington Center for Statistics and the Social Sciences

CSSS BECOMES PERMANENT

CSSS was started in July 1999 as a University Initiatives Fund (UIF) project, for four years initially. In the fourth year, CSSS would be reviewed and a decision made as to whether it would be made permanent or terminated. This is the fourth year, and the review took place in January. The review committee’s report was very favorable, and as a result, UW Interim President Lee Huntsman decided to make CSSS a permanent unit of the university.

The CSSS self-study report is available at the CSSS web site, www.csss.washington.edu (it is the top button in the black box at the top of the page). It shows that almost all of the goals of the original UIF proposal have already been realized. The review report is also available on the web, at www.washington.edu/uff/uff2/csss.pdf. President Huntsman wrote:

“We are delighted to let you know that the CSSS review committee has recommended continuing status for the Center, and we concur with pleasure. Your accomplishments have been spectacular, bringing honor not only to you and your colleagues but also to the University of Washington as a whole. Enabling and supporting the visionary work of faculty is the deepest purpose of the UIF, and we commend you for all that you have done.” (continued on page 4)